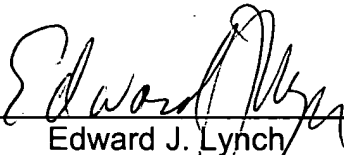


REMARKS

The applicants believe that the pending claims define patentable subject matter. Initial consideration and an early allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Patent Office the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form and request that they be considered by the Examiner in the examination of the present application. Please note that many of the references cited on the attached were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior applications Serial No. 09/929,371, Serial No. 09/057,303, and Serial No. 60/076,973.

Respectfully submitted,

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